

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

27 November 2018

Ms. Emily Crose  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 61286  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Reference: F-2019-00080

Dear Ms. Crose:

This is a final response to your 28 September 2018 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, received in the office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator on 11 October 2018, for information regarding a **CIA program related to “CKELBOW” – A supposed late-1970’s soviet communications tap mentioned in the book “Billion Dollar Spy” by David E. Hoffman.** We have assigned your request the reference number above. Please use this number when corresponding so that we can identify it easily.

With regard to your request, responsive records, should they exist, would be contained in operational files. The CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 3141, as amended, exempts CIA operational files from the search, review, publication, and disclosure requirements of the FOIA. For your information, this determination is not subject to an administrative appeal pursuant to Agency regulations in subparts 1900.42(a) of title 32 of the Code of Federal Regulations. We regret that we are unable to assist you further.

If you have questions regarding our response, you may seek assistance from CIA’s FOIA Public Liaison. You may reach the FOIA Public Liaison at:

703-613-1287 (FOIA Hotline)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Fong".

Allison Fong  
Information and Privacy Coordinator